

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

Figure 1 has been amended to add the label "Prior Art." Please replace originally filed Figure 1 with the attached Replacement Sheet of Figure 1.

Attachment: Replacement Sheet
Annotated Sheet Showing Change

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding grounds of objection and/or rejection are respectfully requested in light of the above amendments and the remarks that follow.

At the outset, applicants gratefully acknowledge the Examiner's indication that claims 3, 8, 9, 15 and 16 contain allowable subject matter.

The Examiner has objected to the drawings, requiring Figure 1 to be labeled "Prior Art." By this Amendment, applicants have submitted herewith a new replacement sheet for Figure 1 with the label applied as required by the Examiner.

The Examiner has objected to the abstract insofar as it refers in part to a non-elected invention. By this Amendment, lines 13-18 mentioned by the Examiner as containing the objectionable language have been deleted.

The Examiner also objects to the disclosure based on minor informalities identified in paragraph 5 on page 3 of the Official Action. By this Amendment, applicants have amended each paragraph in the manner suggested by the Examiner, thereby overcoming the objection.

The Examiner has rejected claims 1, 2, 6, 7 and 12-14 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by Yoshihiro et al. (JP 58163246 A).

By this Amendment, applicants have amended claim 1 to incorporate the limitations of dependent claim 2. Accordingly, the remarks that follow will address the Examiner's position with respect to the application of Yoshihiro as anticipatory of the subject matter of claim 2, as found on page 4 of the Official Action. According to the Examiner, Yoshihiro discloses that the foundation includes a block (i.e., the two blocks at the bottom on the front side of the generator 1 in contact with the foundation 6, referencing Figures 1 and 2 of the reference). The Examiner contends that Yoshihiro also discloses removing the block from the foundation as shown in

hidden lines in the elevated position in Figure 2, leaving an open recess through the foundation, and then rotating the generator about a vertical axis through the recess in the foundation.

It is respectfully submitted that the Examiner has interpreted the disclosure in Yoshihiro well beyond that which is shown in the drawings. For example, it is not at all clear that the foundation in Yoshihiro includes a block that is removed from the foundation so as to leave an open recess through one of the foundation sides. In this regard, Figure 2 of Yoshihiro appears to show that the generator 1 is raised vertically and then rotated about a vertical axis to the position shown in Figure 3. In this regard, the raising of the generator separates the rotor shaft of the generator from the rotor components in both the turbines 2 and 3. There is no disclosure in Yoshihiro of any block located on one side of the generator and which is subsequently removed to open a recess through that side of the foundation. In fact, from the disclosure in Figure 3 of Yoshihiro, it does not appear that there are any blocks on the side of the generator that require removal in order for the generator to be pivoted about the vertical axis as also shown in Figure 3.

Accordingly, the amendment to claim 1 to require that the foundation include a block on one side of the generator and including the step of removing the block from the foundation leaving an open recess through the one foundation side, and then rotating the generator about the vertical axis through the recess clearly distinguishes over Yoshihiro. Claim 1 as amended as well as claims 3-6 that depend therefrom are therefore now in condition for immediate allowance.

With respect to independent claim 7, that claim has been amended to incorporate the limitations of dependent claim 8, limitations similar to those in claim 2 which were added to independent claim 1. For the same reasons, claim 7 as amended clearly distinguishes over Yoshihiro. Claims 12-14 are patentable by reason of their dependence upon claim 7.

The Examiner has rejected claims 4 and 10 under 35 U.S.C. §103 as unpatentable over Yoshihiro. As acknowledged by the Examiner, Yoshihiro neither discloses nor suggests the limitations in claims 4 and 10 but in any event, the claims are patentable by reason of their dependence upon claims 1 and 7, respectively.

Claims 2 and 8 and non-elected claims 5 and 11 have been canceled.

New dependent claim 17 further limits dependent claim 4. Text has been added in the specification on page 8, noting that support is clearly apparent in Figure 5.

The application is now in condition for immediate allowance, and early passage to issue is respectfully requested. In the event, however, any small matters remain outstanding, the Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned so that the prosecution of this application can be expeditiously concluded.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in the fee(s) filed, or asserted to be filed, or which should have been filed herewith (or with any paper hereafter filed in this application by this firm) to our Account No. 14-1140.

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

By: 

Michael J. Keenan
Reg. No. 32,106

MJK:rrr
901 North Glebe Road, 11th Floor
Arlington, VA 22203-1808
Telephone: (703) 816-4000
Facsimile: (703) 816-4100